

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-66 (Canceled).

67. (Currently amended): A kit for the determination of the presence of, and/or the amount of, and/or the concentration of, ~~[[one or more]]~~ a thrombospondin fragment or fragments in a material taken or gathered from an ~~[[organism]]~~ individual, said kit for the detection and/or monitoring of the clinical course of a neoplastic disease, said kit comprising a binding agent capable of binding said ~~[[one or more of said]]~~ thrombospondin fragment or fragments, each of said thrombospondin fragment or fragments being one within a molecular weight range selected from the group consisting of 80 to 110 kDa, 40 to 60 kDa, and 20 to 35 kDa, wherein the size in kDa is that determined by gel electrophoresis after disulfide bond reduction.

Claims 68-167 (Canceled).

168. (New): A kit for the determination of the presence of, and/or the amount of, and/or the concentration of, a thrombospondin fragment or fragments in a material taken or gathered from an individual, said kit comprising a binding agent capable of binding said thrombospondin

fragment or fragments and/or a portion of said fragment or fragments, each of said fragment or fragments being one that starts between amino acid residues I-165 and V-263, inclusive, and ends between amino acid residues R-792 and Y-982, inclusive, each of said fragment, fragments or portion being at least 20 kDa in size wherein the size in kDa is that determined by gel electrophoresis after disulfide bond reduction.

169. (New): A kit for the determination of the presence of, and/or the amount of, and/or the concentration of, a thrombospondin fragment or fragments in a material taken or gathered from an individual, said kit comprising a binding agent capable of binding said thrombospondin fragment or fragments, each of said thrombospondin fragment or fragments having a molecular weight not exceeding 110 kDa, wherein the size in kDa is that determined by gel electrophoresis after disulfide bond reduction, and wherein the fragment comprises a region of thrombospondin, said region selected from the group consisting of:

a domain or a portion thereof within the protease-resistant core of thrombospondin, said domain being selected from the group consisting of a domain of inter-chain disulfide bonds, an oligomerization domain, a procollagen-like domain, a type 1 repeat, a type 2 repeat, and a type 3 repeat;

a portion of a collagen type V binding domain; and

an epitope for binding the TSP Ab-4 antibody.

170. (New): A kit of Claim 169 wherein the region of thrombospondin is a domain or a portion thereof within the protease-resistant core of thrombospondin, said domain being selected from the group consisting of a domain of inter-chain disulfide bonds, an oligomerization domain, a procollagen-like domain, a type 1 repeat, a type 2 repeat, and a type 3 repeat.

171. (New): A kit of Claim 169 wherein the region of thrombospondin is a portion of a collagen type V binding domain.

172. (New): A kit of Claim 169 wherein the region of thrombospondin is an epitope for binding the TSP Ab-4 antibody.

173. (New): A kit for the determination of the presence of, and/or the amount of, and/or the concentration of, a thrombospondin fragment or fragments in a material taken or gathered from an individual, said kit comprising a binding agent capable of binding said thrombospondin fragment or fragments, each of said thrombospondin fragment or fragments being at least 20 kDa in size but not exceeding 110 kDa in size; wherein the size in kDa is that determined by gel electrophoresis after disulfide bond reduction.

174. (New): A kit for the determination of the presence of, and/or the amount of, and/or the concentration of, a thrombospondin fragment or fragments in a material taken or gathered from an individual, said kit comprising a binding agent capable of binding plasma fragments of 80 to 110 kDa, 40 to 60 kDa, and 20 to 35 kDa, wherein said plasma fragments are from the plasma of the individual, and wherein the size in kDa is that determined by gel electrophoresis after disulfide bond reduction.

175. (New): A kit for the determination of the presence of, and/or the amount of, and/or the concentration of, a thrombospondin fragment or fragments in a material taken or gathered from an individual, said kit comprising a binding agent capable of binding a plasma fragment of 20 to 35 kDa, wherein said plasma fragment is from the plasma of the individual, and wherein the size in kDa is that determined by gel electrophoresis after disulfide bond reduction.

176. (New): A kit of Claim 67, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, or 175, said kit further

comprising a reference molecule, said reference molecule capable of binding to the binding agent.

177. (New): A kit of Claim 176 wherein the sequence of the reference molecule comprises the sequence TEENKE (SEQ ID NO:1).

178. (New): A kit of Claim 67, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, or 175, wherein the binding agent capable of binding the fragment or fragments is a first binding agent and said kit further comprises a second binding agent, said second binding agent capable of binding thrombospondin but not the thrombospondin fragment or fragments.

179. (New): A kit of Claim 176 wherein the binding agent capable of binding the fragment or fragments is a first binding agent and said kit further comprises a second binding agent, said second binding agent capable of binding thrombospondin but not the thrombospondin fragment or fragments.

180. (New): A kit of Claim 177 wherein the binding agent capable of binding the fragment or fragments is a first binding agent and said kit further comprises a second binding agent, said second binding agent capable of binding thrombospondin but not the thrombospondin fragment or fragments.

181. (New): A kit for the determination of the presence of, and/or the amount of, and/or the concentration of, a thrombospondin fragment or fragments in a material taken or gathered from an individual, said kit comprising a binding agent, said binding agent capable of binding said thrombospondin fragment or fragments, each of said thrombospondin fragment or fragments being one within a molecular weight range selected from the group consisting of 80 to 110 kDa, 40 to 60 kDa, and 20 to 35 kDa, wherein the size in kDa is that determined by gel electrophoresis

after disulfide bond reduction.

182. (New): A kit of Claim 181 wherein the binding agent capable of binding the fragment or fragments is a first binding agent and said kit further comprises a second binding agent, said second binding agent capable of binding thrombospondin but not the thrombospondin fragment or fragments.